Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /104 W -------087033 251143Z /41

P R 251013Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5956 INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1353

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1794

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ZA RH SO

SUBJECT: PRESS FOCUS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

REF: LUSAKA 1780

LOCAL PRESS WAS DOMINATED BY STORIES BASED ON PRESIDENT KAUNDA S JUNE 24 PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL), BUT STATEMENTS BY VISITING MINISTERS FROM SOMALIA AND MOZAMBIQUE ALSO RECEIVED PROMINENT ATTENTION. MOZAMBIQUE MINISTER OF NATION DEVELOPMENT, DOS SANTOS, TOLD PRESS IN A LUSAKA STOPOVER (JUNE 24) ON HIS WAY TO THE U.S. THAT HIS COUNTRY IS REINFORCING ITS MILITARY STRENGTH IN ORDER TO REPEL INVASIONS FROM RHODESIA. RHODESIA IS STILL VIOLATING MOZAMBIQUE AIR SPACE, SANTOS SAID; HIS DEPARTURE FROM MAPUTO HAD BEEN DELAYED BY A TELEPHONE CALL FROM THE GOVERNOR OF TETE PROVINCE TELLING HIM THAT RHODESIA AIRCRAFT WERE FLYING OVER MOZAMBIQUE TERRITORY. VISITING SOMALIAN MINISTER OF NATIONAL GUIDANCE, HASSAN, TOLD PRESS THAT SOMALIA IS "READY TO FIGHT THE SMITH REGIME AT ANY TIME--DEPENDING WHEN WE ARE CALLED. RELATIONS BETWEEN SOMALIA UNCLASSIFIED

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AND ZAMBIA ARE EXTREMELY GOOD AND "THAT IS WHY WE ARE READY AND ITCHING FOR A DAY WE SHALL BE CALLED ON TO FIGHT THE SMITH REGIME." HOWEVER, SOMALIA DEPENDS ON GUIDANCE FROM FRONTLINE STATES ON ITS POLICIES TOWRDS SOUTHERN AFRICA. IF FRONTLINE WANTS NEGOTIATIONS, SOMALIA WILL SUPPORT THEM. HOWEVER, SHOULD FRONTLINE CALL FOR HELP IN FIGHTING OFF SMITH, "SOMALIA PROBABLY WILL BE

THE FIRST COUNTRY	TO RESPOND	TO SUCH A	CALL."
LOW			

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Message Attributes

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